Policy and Procedure Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division SAIL	Date Issued 11/28/2005	Section WIser Choice	Policy Number WC-001	Page 1
	Date Revised July 12, 2011	Subject: Eligibility, Enrollment, and Coordination of Benefits		

1. POLICY:

It is the policy of BHD that Milwaukee County residents who are not incarcerated and determined to be in need of substance abuse services through the application of the American Society of Addiction Services patient placement criteria (ASAM-PPC) shall be enrolled within the substance abuse treatment service system without regard to sex, race, color, creed, sexual orientation, handicap or age, in accordance with applicable Federal and State statutory requirements. Not withstanding the above, a minor under the age of 18 and individuals over the age of 60 who meet Family Care eligibility, shall be referred to the respective County department responsible for provision of services. Priority placement shall be extended to pregnant females regardless of age in accordance with s. 51.46. Individuals receiving services from the substance abuse treatment service system shall be liable for payment of said services in accordance with Administrative Code HFS 1, Uniform Fee System.

2. PROCEDURE:

Definitions:

"Indigent" means either (reference s. 814.29(1)(d)):

- 1. That the person is a recipient of means-tested public assistance, including aid to families with dependent children, relief funded by a block grant under Ch. 49, relief provided by the County under s. 59.53 (21), medical assistance, supplemental security income, food stamps, or benefits received by veterans under s. 45.351 (1) or under 38CFR.
- That the person is otherwise unable, because of poverty, to pay the costs of services. In
 determining the person's ability to pay under this subdivision, consideration shall be given to the
 person's household size and income correlated to the federal poverty guidelines under 42 USC
 9902 (2).

I. Eligibility

- 1. Milwaukee County residents determined to be indigent and in need of substance abuse treatment services as evidenced by the application of the ASAM-PPC.
- 2. Milwaukee County residents who are determined to not be indigent, yet in need of substance abuse treatment services as evidenced by the application of the ASAM-PPC, may receive such services and shall be liable to pay for said services in accordance with HFS 1. Milwaukee County reserves the right to require all private clinical treatment benefits be exhausted before enrollment into the system, if applicable.
- 3. Any individual within Milwaukee County found to be in need of emergency services, shall receive immediate emergency services. Emergency services include those services provided under the authority of s. 51.15, 51.45 (11) (a) or (b) or (12), 55.05 (4) or 55.06 (11) (a) for not more than 72 hours.

Policy and Procedure Milwaukee County	Date Issued 11/28/2005	Section WIser Choice	Policy Number WC-001	Page 2	
Behavioral Health Division SAIL	Date Revised July 12, 2011	Subject: Eligibility, Enrollment, and Coordination of Benefits			

II. Enrollment

- 1. Individuals meeting the eligibility requirements of Section I., #1. or #2. will be enrolled into the Milwaukee County substance abuse treatment service system with the individual's consent.
- 2. The Central Intake Unit (CIU) shall advise individuals eligible under Section I., #2. of their responsibility to pay for services rendered prior to their enrollment into the Milwaukee County substance abuse treatment service system. Such advisement shall conform with the latest fiscal information published by DHFS. The CIU will obtain the patient's signed consent indicating that the patient will be billed on the basis of the family's ability to pay prior to enrollment into the system, and shall forward the consent form to the clinical treatment provider upon enrollment into the system.
- 3. Individuals who receive emergency services and desire additional services after the emergency has abated, may enroll in the Milwaukee County substance abuse treatment service system if they meet the eligibility requirements of Section I., #1. or #2.

III. Coordination of Benefits

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- 1. Medicaid recipients including BadgerCare
 The CIU shall verify Medicaid eligibility, including managed care assignment. The CIU will
 attempt to facilitate coordination of benefits with treatment providers of the Milwaukee County
 network and the applicable Medicaid network.
 - If at least two providers within the Milwaukee County network also belong to the recipient's Medicaid provider network, then the patient will be required to choose a Milwaukee County provider who is also a provider within the recipient's network in order to enroll within the Milwaukee County substance abuse treatment service system and be eligible for the full array of services offered within the Milwaukee County treatment system. The CIU shall inform Milwaukee County and the provider at the time of enrollment to bill Medicaid for services rendered. As the payer of last resort, Milwaukee County will not reimburse providers for eligible and covered Medicaid expenses until such time that covered Medicaid benefits are exhausted. Providers shall be reimbursed by Milwaukee County upon submission of a claim denial from Medicaid, or the assigned Medicaid managed care organization, for patients enrolled within the Milwaukee County system and referred by the Milwaukee County system for the service provided. The claim denial form must be attached to the Service Authorization Request, in order for Milwaukee County to consider authorization for services. Failure to provide the required claim denial form from the recipient's Medicaid organization will result in denial of payment by Milwaukee County for clinical treatment services rendered by the provider. If less than two providers within the Milwaukee County network belong to the recipient's Medicaid provider network, then the patient will be required to choose a provider within the recipient's Medicaid network in order to enroll within the Milwaukee County substance abuse treatment service system and be eligible for the full array of services offered within the Milwaukee County treatment system.

2. Private insurance

Individuals who present to a CIU with private insurance are required to provide written proof from their insurance carrier of exhaustion of benefits, or that substance abuse services are not a covered benefit, prior to enrollment into the Milwaukee County substance abuse treatment service system.

Policy and Procedure Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division SAIL	Date Issued 11/28/2005	Section WIser Choice	Policy Number WC-001	Page 3
	Date Revised July 12, 2011	Subject: Eligibility, Enrollment, and Coordination of Benefits		

Upon enrollment into the Milwaukee County system, the individual may be billed for the provision of services in accordance with HFS 1, if applicable.

3. Other publicly-funded systems

The CIU shall attempt to verify eligibility in other publicly-funded systems upon receiving information that the patient may be eligible. The CIU will attempt to facilitate coordination of benefits with treatment providers of the Milwaukee County network and the other publicly-funded systems. For those individuals with an RSC, the CIU shall inform the assigned RSC agency of the patient's eligibility or presumptive eligibility in other publicly-funded systems, and the RSC agency shall incorporate such information into the Single Coordinated Care Plan (SCCP). Services identified within the SCCP that can be accessed through other publicly-funded systems shall take precedence over corresponding Milwaukee County services when similar or identical services are identified within both systems.

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